

January 9, 1976

SENATOR F. LEWIS: I am asking the Chair to follow the Rules that says it takes three fifths of a majority.

PRESIDENT: The Chair will try to follow the Rules.

SENATOR F. LEWIS: Okay, then I am asking you, Mr. Chairman, that when it says that you amend it, it automatically goes to the Rules Committee. I am asking you to send it there now.

PRESIDENT: I can't send it anyplace. You are just asking me to follow your interpretations, Senator, and that is not the proper way to raise a point. Senator Murphy.

SENATOR MURPHY: I was simply going to move the adoption of the motion to suspend the Rules and get on with it.

PRESIDENT: Did you make a statement to the Chair, Senator Murphy?

SENATOR MURPHY: Yes, I move that we proceed with suspending the Rules as called for in the motion.

PRESIDENT: We are open for debate on your motion to suspend.

SENATOR MURPHY: Yes, I wanted to make the motion.

PRESIDENT: The Clerk made the...all right, you have made the motion and that is before us. Senator Barnett.

SENATOR BARNETT: I would hope we could oppose this suspension of the Rules because if we make up special committees on every controversial thing we have, and I think you already had an example this morning or this afternoon of why the Reference Committee has problems with malpractice insurance and where to send it, what committee, the legalities of it and all the questions involved. I would hope that we would meet this thing head-on. You turned down the Judiciary Committee, from what I understand. The thing to do now is to come up with another motion to send it to another committee until you find out where you want to send it. If we suspend the Rules, we are going to set a precedence that is really going to hurt this body when you continue to come up with special committees to hear controversial issues. And I would hope that we wouldn't do it that way, that we would continue to go out and hit this thing head-on.

PRESIDENT: State your point.

SENATOR DeCAMP: Mr. President, as Chairman of the Rules Committee, I would be abdicating my responsibility if I did not submit to you that even consideration of this motion is completely improper. We suspend the Rules..

PRESIDENT: State your point.

SENATOR DeCAMP: I am. By tradition and every other practice in here for a day at a time, a particular procedure we are employing. You are now going to move into